



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

# EPA Meets with Boone County Residents

## Third Site

Boone County, Indiana

June 2004

### For more information

If you have questions or comments about the cleanup:

#### Joe Munoz

Community Involvement  
Coordinator

(312) 886-7935 or  
(800) 621-8431 weekdays  
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
munoz.joe@epa.gov

#### Matthew Ohl

Remedial Project Manager

(312) 886-4442 or  
(800) 621-8431 weekdays  
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
ohl.matthew@epa.gov

EPA's community involvement coordinator and remedial project manager will respond to inquiries from those interested in the site throughout the cleanup. They will also be available to speak to interested groups upon request.

### Site-related documents

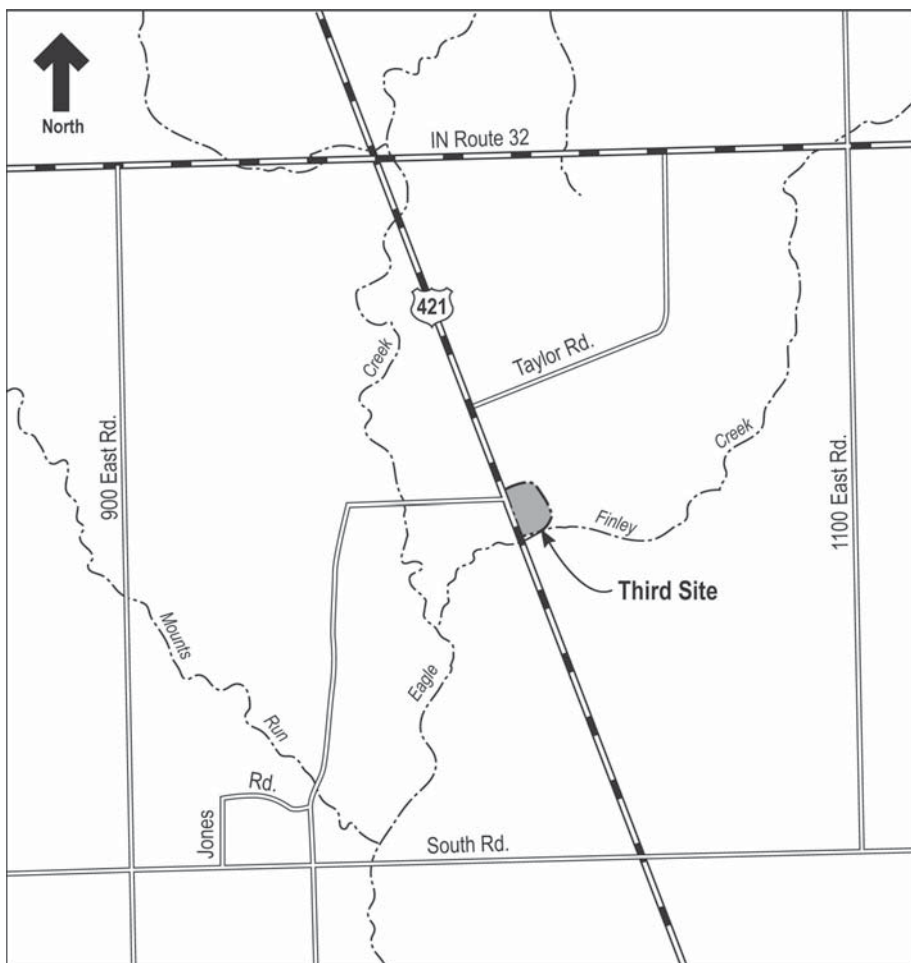
The public may read official documents about the site at:

Hussey-Mayfield Memorial  
Public Library  
250 N. Fifth St.  
Zionsville, Ind.

### On the Web

More information about Third Site can be found on the Internet:

<http://epa.gov/region5/sites/thirdsite/index.htm>



*Third Site is located near Zionsville, about 10 miles northwest of Indianapolis.*

To learn about the community's concerns and issues at Third Site, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency held community interviews with local officials and residents on Feb. 23 and 24, 2004. EPA asked questions addressing local concerns about the contamination, cleanup, and community involvement process.

Most of the residents interviewed live in the vicinity of Third Site and demonstrated a strong awareness and interest in the site.

EPA found out that Boone County residents had a relatively accurate picture of how and why the cleanup is occurring. Residents were primarily concerned about their property and wanted reliable and timely information.

## Questions and answers

Specific questions and concerns raised during the community interviews are addressed below.

EPA's remedial project manager, who was able to give technical specifics about the site, answered these questions:

**1. How is Eagle Creek Reservoir affected by contaminants at this site?**

It was testing of water in the streams that feed into Eagle Creek and the Eagle Creek Reservoir that alerted officials to the problem with contaminants at this site originally. The reservoir is not currently being affected by pollution from the site.

**2. What monitoring/testing is occurring now and planned through the cleanup phase? Are contaminants still being seen, and if so, at what level?**

Finley Creek, a tributary of Eagle Creek, was tested biweekly by the Marion County Health Department from 2000 through 2003. In addition, Environ's last quarterly sampling of surface water near the site including Finley Creek was during the second quarter of 2002 (May 7 - 8, 2002). Volatile organic compounds have been detected periodically in Finley Creek. The concentrations have been in the low part-per-billion levels and below concentrations of concern for the reservoir. The planned remedial activities should prevent further releases.

**3. How far out do they test water, how often, and who does the testing?**

Environ and Bowen are the contractors who will be doing the work/monitoring at the site. Private wells immediately downhill of the contaminated ground water (water underneath the ground that supplies wells and springs) from the site were sampled and were not affected by site-related pollution. There are no plans to conduct additional sampling of private wells at this time.

**4. What are the specific chemicals/contaminants that have been found at the site?**

The primary site soil and ground water contaminants are volatile organic compounds or VOCs, which are chemicals that easily evaporate. The source of the pollution appears to be contaminated soil and sediment (mud) nearby and below the pond.

**5. Where will contaminants be disposed of?**

Polluted soil and sediment will be treated on-site,

## Site background and cleanup progress

The site was used in the mid- to late-1970s for tank and drum storage and truck parking associated with the adjacent Enviro-Chem site. EPA believes these activities contaminated the soil and ground water. Storage and disposal activities stopped in 1983. Soil and ground water samples were collected in 1987 and 1992 by companies deemed responsible for the contamination and again in 1998 by EPA. The samples revealed high levels of volatile organic compounds and related chemicals in the site's soil, ground water, and surface water.

In 1996, part of Finley Creek was moved 40 feet away from a Third Site pond that partially overlies what is believed to be a source of contamination. More samples were collected in 1999 and 2000 to determine the nature and extent of the problems so cleanup options could be studied. A report called an engineering evaluation and cost analysis was finished in October 2000. The study compared cleanup choices for the four areas of contamination at the site.

EPA signed an action memorandum in May 2001 and a consent order in November 2002. The documents outline EPA's cleanup plan for the site. The first cleanup phase including pre-cleanup planning and design and the selection of a contractor was completed in March 2004. Most of the construction activities should begin in the summer of 2004 and be completed in late 2005. The contamination should be entirely dissipated by 2015.

and the remaining cleaned material will stay there. Monitoring will be done to assure the VOCs are reduced to safe levels

**6. Are property owners' wells contaminated?**

Of the private wells that have been tested no site-related contamination has been found.

**7. How are private wells selected for testing?**

Private wells that were immediately downhill from the contaminated ground water from the site were sampled. There are no plans to conduct additional sampling of private wells at this time.

**8. Should local residents feel comfortable drinking their well water?**

Yes. EPA does not have information that indicates the site is affecting private wells. While other

environmental issues may exist in Boone County, the scope of EPA's work and its jurisdiction is limited to the cleanup of the Third Site. Other environmental concerns should be shared with local officials and other relevant agencies including the health department.

## Other issues

During the community interviews, other items were addressed. The following summarizes these topics and EPA responses:

**1. What is the potential for movement of ground water contamination to the south and east of the site?**

The direction of ground water movement and associated pollution is to the southwest. No easterly flow has been observed or would be expected. Therefore there is little potential for ground water movement to the south and east of the site. When the pump and treat phase of the cleanup begins, the movement of contamination should basically be stopped.

**2. Is the water from Bankert's Pond safe for use by the fire department in fighting fires?**

Sampling of Bankert's Pond shows that the water is not polluted. It contains only naturally occurring salts and can be safely used for firefighting.

## Next steps

EPA is committed to keeping the residents of Boone County informed of investigations and cleanup activities on and around the Third Site. To do this, EPA is proposing to:

### *Send fact sheets*

EPA will mail out periodic fact sheets (like this one) to everyone on the site's mailing list. These fact sheets will provide understandable updates on site activities. The fact sheets will also be used to announce public meetings. In addition to sending fact sheets via first class mail, EPA will develop an e-mail distribution list for interested parties who prefer e-mail. The fact sheet will be sent to e-mail recipients as an Adobe Acrobat file at the same time the fact sheet is mailed.

### *Hold community meetings*

EPA will hold community meetings at key cleanup milestones. The meetings will be announced by newspaper notices in the *Zionsville Sentinel*, e-mail messages and fact sheets such as this one.

## Mailing list additions

If you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list for Third Site, fill out this form and mail it to the address below:

U.S. EPA Region 5  
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J)  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

\*Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Phone (Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ \*(Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Items marked with (\*) are optional.

*Once you are on the mailing list, you will automatically receive information from EPA regarding the Third Site.*



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

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FIRST CLASS

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## **THIRD SITE: EPA Meets with Boone County Residents**

*This fact sheet is printed on paper made of recycled fibers.*

# **EPA Visits with Boone County Residents about Third Site**

Residents want timely information

Cleanup construction should begin this summer

(details inside)